

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                              |   |                            |
|------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| In re Patent Application of: | ) | <b>Mail Stop Amendment</b> |
|                              | ) |                            |
| Kristen L. WATKINS et al.    | ) | Group Art Unit: 2128       |
|                              | ) |                            |
| Application No.: 10/778,021  | ) | Examiner: F. Ferris III    |
|                              | ) |                            |
| Filed: February 17, 2004     | ) |                            |
|                              | ) |                            |
| For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR   | ) |                            |
| STAGGERING TIME POINTS FOR   | ) |                            |
| DEPLOYMENT OF RINGS IN A     | ) |                            |
| FIBER OPTIC NETWORK          | ) |                            |
| SIMULATION PLAN              | ) |                            |

**AMENDMENT**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action dated March 26, 2007, please amend  
the present application as follows.

**Amendments to the claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.